

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 10, 2009

Chairman Henry Waxman  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Waxman:

We are writing to bring to your attention a group of people who are being denied access to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's (NTIA) TV converter box program. Due to the narrow definition of a "household," residents of Single Room Occupancy (SRO) buildings and other types of group homes are ineligible to receive converter box coupons from the NTIA.


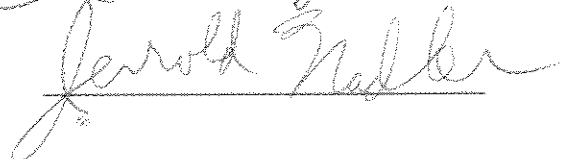
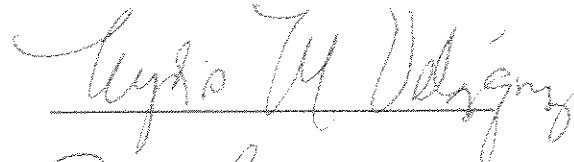
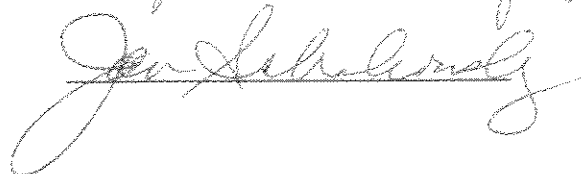
Residents of SROs have limited financial resources and purchasing TV converter boxes pose a significant burden. Without the help of the converter box coupon program many residents of SROs and group homes will lose the television signal they rely on for news, emergency information and entertainment.

It is our understanding that at the request of the Energy and Commerce Committee the NTIA issued a rule change in November 2008 to include residents of nursing homes and other senior living facilities in the coupon program. However, this rule change failed to extend a waiver to those that live in similar types of group homes and SROs.

Passage of S. 352, the DTV Delay Act, affords us the opportunity to extend the program to this vulnerable population. We would urge you to request that the NTIA issue a waiver to ensure that group home residents receive the same access to the DTV converter box program as all other Americans.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter. Please contact Natalie Price of Congresswoman Roybal-Allard's staff at 225-5098 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Am. Business

Maple Walk

CB Moly

Danny K. Davis

Bull Run

Charles B. Rangel

Forward Bruno  
Reichmann

W. G.  
Yvette W. Clarke

Mrs. J. E. King

Garth Kerner

Lio Capps

W. G. G. G.

Miss Mather

Gregg Allen

James  
Allen

J. E. Allen

Laura Bickel

Laura Bickel

Liana Watson

Grace F. Napolitano

Loretta Sambo

**Letter to Chairman Henry Waxman  
on the digital television transition  
March 10, 2009  
Signatories**

Page 1

Lucille Roybal-Allard  
Nydia M. Velázquez

Jerrold Nadler  
Janice D. Schakowsky

Page 2

Luis V. Gutierrez  
Maxine Waters  
Carolyn B. Maloney  
Danny K. Davis  
Bobby L. Rush  
Charles B. Rangel  
Howard L. Berman  
Jesse L. Jackson, Jr.  
Joseph Crowley

Yvette D. Clark  
Linda T. Sánchez  
Gary L. Ackerman  
Lois Capps  
Anna G. Eshoo  
Doris O. Matsui  
Gregory W. Meeks  
Edolphus Towns  
José E. Serrano

Page 3

Laura Richardson  
Grace F. Napolitano  
Xavier Becerra  
Loretta Sanchez  
Diane E. Watson